

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 12-29 without prejudice, such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1.(Previously presented) A method for introducing a tube into a borehole in the ground, comprising the actions of:

composing said tube by connecting successive tube parts end-to-end in a connecting area, and

axially displacing at least a composed section of said tube from said connecting area towards said borehole and introducing at least a substantial portion of said tube or said composed section thereof into said borehole,

said connecting area being located at least horizontally spaced away from the borehole, and said axial displacement of said tube or said composed section thereof from said connecting area to said borehole proceeding along an at least partially curved path,

characterized in that said connection of successive tube parts end-to-end into said tube is completed before said tube is brought in communication with said borehole.

2.(Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said path along which said tube or said composed section thereof is displaced includes at least one complete winding.

3.(Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein said path along which said tube or said composed section thereof is displaced includes at least a spiral or helical portion.

4.(Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said tube parts are oriented at an angle to a topmost portion of said borehole during said connection of said tube parts.

5.(Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said tube parts are oriented substantially

horizontally during said connection of said tube parts.

6.(Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said tube or said composed section thereof is plastically bent to a curved shape where it enters a curved portion of said path.

7.(Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein plastically bent portions of said tube or said composed section thereof are plastically straightened where it leaves said curved portion of said path.

8.(Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein maximum total deformation during said bending into said curved shape is less than 2%.

9.(Previously Presented) A method for introducing a tube into a borehole in the ground, comprising the actions of:

composing said tube by connecting successive tube parts end-to-end in a connecting area, and

axially displacing at least a composed section of said tube from said connecting area towards said borehole and introducing at least a substantial portion of said tube or said composed section thereof into said borehole,

said connecting area being located at least horizontally spaced away from the borehole, and said axial displacement of said tube or said composed section thereof from said connecting area to said borehole proceeding along an at least partially curved path, characterized in that portions of said tube or said composed section thereof proceeding along said curved path are bent into at most one single curve.

10.(Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein said tube or said composed section thereof is plastically bent to a curved shape where it enters a curved portion of said path, wherein plastically bent portions of said tube or said composed section thereof are plastically straightened where it leaves said curved portion of said path, and wherein said plactical

straightening of said tube or said composed section thereof when leaving said curved portion of said path occurs a single time at most for each portion of said tube or said composed section thereof.

11.(Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein portions of said tube or said composed section thereof proceeding along a curved section of said path are in an at least elastically deformed condition.

12 - 29.(Canceled)